

## Protecting Refugees: Digital Resilience & Info Integrity

In a world where online information risks - such as misinformation, disinformation and hate speech - shape public opinion, influence policy and erode trust, the impact on marginalized individuals can be devastating. This session examines information risks through a forced displacement lens – highlighting both the challenges and the opportunities to strengthen digital protection, access to reliable information, freedom of expression and social cohesion.

When harmful narratives go unchallenged, they don't just distort public debate—they create barriers to asylum, justify restrictive policies, and fuel hate speech that can lead to violence, social unrest, and further displacement. Freedom of expression includes the right to seek, receive and impart information. When digital feeds are full of potentially harmful content, it becomes more challenging for communities to access trustworthy information, and for humanitarian organisations to deliver assistance.

The urgency of the challenge cannot be overstated. To promote digital protection for refugees, this Open Forum examines how we can collectively strengthen digital resilience and trust to ensure the integrity of information online. Presentations from diverse stakeholders – including Government, Tech and Private Sector, and the UN – will discuss digital resilience building approaches from pre-bunking, digital literacy, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

### Open Forum:

The session will be opened by the [Norwegian Government \(Innovation Norway\)](#), with presentations from The South African Government, UNHCR – the UN Refugee Agency – and private and tech sector participants. The session will promote engagement from in-person and online participants, with inbuilt time for Q&A.

### Sustainable Development Goals:

This session will highlight the critical role of building digital resilience to address online information risks. It will examine how diverse partnerships can leverage resources, technical support and capacity building (SDG 17) to strengthen social cohesion (SDG 16). By showcasing practical examples of digital resilience to address harmful narratives against refugees, participants will better understand how to promote peaceful and inclusive societies. The session will highlight innovation in the Digital Space (SDG 9) by profiling new proactive approaches to building digital resilience – including the promotion of culture and peace through quality education (SDG 4). Additionally, the session will highlight the role of digital resilience in strengthening Gender Equality (SDG 5) and addressing gendered harmful narratives.